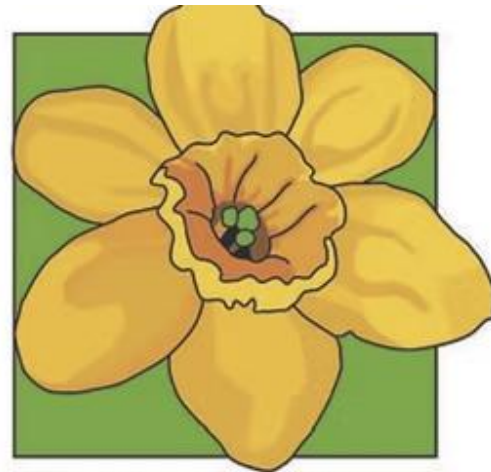


2025-26 Floral Arrangement, Horticulture and Photography Schedule Overview & Discussion

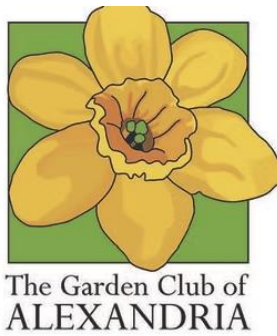
Garden Club of Alexandria



The Garden Club of
ALEXANDRIA

2025-26 Floral Arrangement Schedule

What to Expect



Theme: Tapestry of the Seasons

- Inspired by celebrations and observances throughout the calendar year

Objective: Cultivate an atmosphere of participation & engagement!

- Empower both new & longtime members to engage their creative talents
- During the year, we will plan workshops and provide instructional videos to encourage all members to exhibit
 - **Biedermeier workshop: Tuesday, Oct 28 at 10:30 a.m. (Ruth's garage)**
- Our schedule was developed in collaboration with Hunting Creek Garden Club to promote shared learning and meaningful exchange. An asterisk (*) on the schedule indicates months featuring a shared floral arrangement style with HCGC.

2025-26 Floral Arrangement Schedule

What to Expect



- Floral designs are found in the Floral Styles and Designs Handbook (FSD) developed for GCV Flower Shows www.gcvirginia.org
- Several months include both Class I and Class II floral design style options and you are welcome to participate in one or both classes.
- Entries must include a card listing both the common and botanical names of all plant material in the arrangement.
- Many GCA and GCV flower shows require exhibitors to write a statement of intent as part of the entry card. We are going to practice this in several months of the schedule.

2025-26 Floral Arrangement Schedule

What to Expect



Statements of Intent

- No more than 25 words, typed or printed on an index card (3x5 or 4x6) placed next to the arrangement
 - Clearly state how the exhibit relates to the theme of the class/show and how you are interpreting that theme.
 - Keep the statement brief and easy to understand, using clear and descriptive language.

Example statement of intent: “Fresh shoots burst through the soil and blossom majestically as they stretch towards the sky”. Source: GCA Show, Breaking Ground Class.

2025-26 Floral Arrangement Schedule

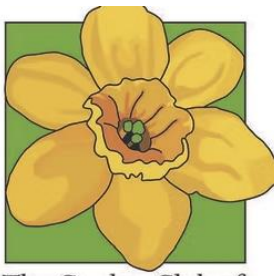
What to Expect



- Mix of Contemporary & Traditional Styles
 - We try not to repeat styles from the past year's schedule so most of this schedule includes designs we haven't tried in a few years
 - Broad range of designs allows us to gain experience in lots of areas
 - During the year we will offer instructional videos and hands on workshops to support our members in participating fully in our floral design schedule

2025-26 Floral Arrangement Schedule

Sampling of Contemporary Designs This Year



The Garden Club of
ALEXANDRIA

PILLAR



PHOENIX



MODERN FRENCH

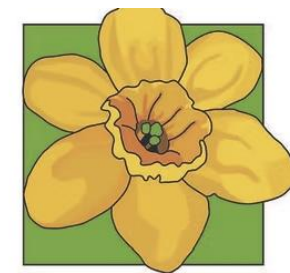


STRETCH



2025-26 Floral Arrangement Schedule

Sampling of Traditional Designs This Year



The Garden Club of
ALEXANDRIA

FRENCH ROCCOCO



TRADITIONAL MASS

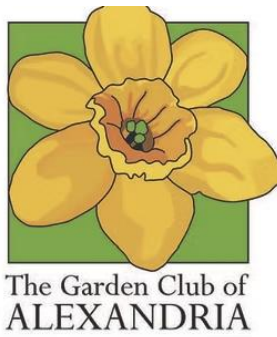


BIEDERMEIER



2025-26 Horticulture Schedule

What to Expect



Share the beauty of your garden throughout the year!

- Multiple entries allowed per category (e.g., seasonal bloom), but only one entry per genus/cultivar or division
 - Ownership requirement: 3+ months
 - Seasonal blooms = 6"-24" with 2 full sets of leaves if possible
 - Berried branches no more than 24" in length
- Exhibit in glass bottles scaled to specimen; no logos imprinted in glass
- Wedging materials expected but not required
- Carefully groom specimens and collections
- Correctly identify common and botanical names
- See GCV website for horticulture resources

2025-26 Horticulture Schedule



- **All months except December: Seasonal bloom**
- September
 - Home grown vegetables (specimen or collection of 3 or more)
 - Dahlia specimen
 - Rose specimen
- October
 - Dried or flowering ornamental grass
 - Display of squashes/gourds or late season vegetables
- November
 - Berried branch
 - Fall blooming bulb-cut specimen
 - Branch featuring fall foliage
- December
 - Forced bulbs (paperwhites) in soil, rocks, marbles
 - Amaryllis in soil
 - Topiary decorated for Christmas

- February
 - Evergreen branch displayed without a bottle
 - Forced bulb in bloom
 - Houseplant
- March
 - Forced bulb in bloom
 - Blooming houseplant (1+ year ownership)
- April
 - Daffodil
 - Spring blooming bulb
 - Ephemerals
- May
 - Summer plants started from seed in peat pots
 - Blooming branch
 - Iris, Peony, Clematis
- June
 - Collection of 3 or more herbs in a pot
 - Hydrangea
 - Lily
 - Display of lettuces or seasonal vegetable

2025-26 Photography Schedule

What to Expect

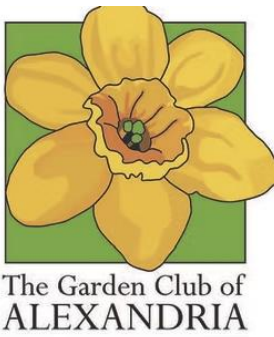
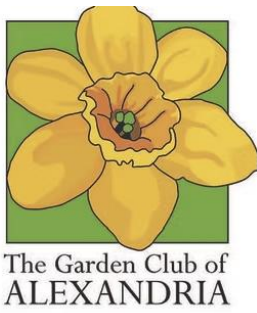


Exhibit your creativity through photography!

- One class for photography entries each month
- Each photograph must be the original work of the exhibitor
- Entries should measure 5" x 7" unless otherwise specified
- Entries should include a card that identifies the photograph
- See GCA website for photography resources

2025-26 Photography Schedule



- September: “Found Objects”
 - Photograph of a objects primarily arranged by another person or animal
 - Conveys a visual story or explores composition
- October: “It’s Greek to Me!”
 - Travel photograph depicting a cultural feature or characteristic of a location
 - Plant material not required but encouraged
- November: “Intimate Landscape”
 - Pared down study of natural scenery
 - Mid-range view (closer than traditional landscape photography)
 - Focuses on elements (e.g., patterns in leaves, texture of water), often excluding horizon or sky
- December: Designer’s choice in a giveaway frame

- February: “Reflections in the Water”
 - Does not need to include plant material
- March: “The Colors of Mardi Gras”
 - Close-up photograph of a flower or leaf where green, gold (hue) or purple dominates
- April: “Patterns in Nature”
 - Photograph of patterns and geometry found in a garden or wild landscape
 - Plant material must be present
- May: “April Showers Bring May Flowers”
 - Photograph of flowers in a favorite garden in the springtime.
- June: “Summer is Here”
 - Photograph of your favorite destination during the summer months